



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer
(210) 384-7440

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**FEDERAL JURY FINDS RAPPER "TWISTED BLACK"
GUILTY IN DRUG CONSPIRACY CASE**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that Tommy Delando Burns, 35, of Fort Worth, Texas, was found guilty of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of cocaine base, "crack." Burns, who is a rapper known professionally by the name, "Twisted Black," was also convicted of two additional counts of distribution of cocaine base, "crack." The jury did not reach a verdict on a fourth charge of distribution of cocaine. As a result of the convictions, Burns faces a prison sentence of between 10 years to life in federal prison and a maximum \$4,000,000 fine. Sentencing is scheduled for February 2007.

According to testimony from the trial, Burns and others conspired to distribute "crack" between 2001 and June of 2005. Much of the "crack" was distributed by Burns in 2005, when he was taking the drugs from Fort Worth to Midland, and distributing in Midland and Odessa to various street-level "crack" dealers.

This case was investigated by the Midland Police Department with assistance from the Drug Enforcement Administration. Assistant United States Attorney Jeff Parras is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

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